



5-6-04

Applicant's Docket No.: 788_106

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Masuji ICHIHARA

Ser. No.: 10/606,036

Art Unit: 2873

Filed: June 25, 2003

Examiner: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: 3957

For: **WATER-ABSORPTIVE CONTACT LENS AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV 472820403 US.

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited on *May 5, 2004* with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 addressed to: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of a European Search Report bearing a mailing date of April 20, 2004 from a corresponding European patent application, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

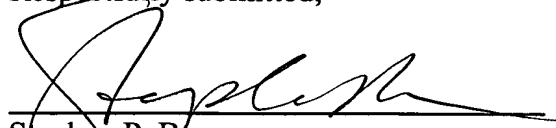
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

May 5, 2004

Date




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Form PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>						<i>Complete if Known</i>	
		Application Number		10/606,036			
		Filing Date		June 25, 2003			
		First Named Inventor		Masuji ICHIHARA			
		Art Unit		2873			
		Examiner Name		Not Assigned			
		Confirmation No.		3957			
Sheet		1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	788_106	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	AC	4,038,264	07-26-1977	Rostoker et al.				
	AD	4,605,712	08-12-1986	Mueller et al.				

U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

Exam. Initial		Application/ Publication Number	Filing/ Publication Date	Inventor Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
	AE	1 197 782 A1	04-17-2002	EP				
	AF	0 584 826 A2	03-02-1994	EP				
	AG	0 657 751 A2	06-14-1995	EP				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

Examiner:		Date Considered:	
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.